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CHRISTMAS IN MEXICO.

CARRANZA'S REPLY TO BE GIVEN TODAY

To Be Handed Secretary Lane Brotherhood Heads and Railby Chairman of Mexican Commission.

that he either sign or repudiate the pending protocol, which will be deliv- tion of conferences here today between ered late today to Secretary Lane by representatives of the railroads and the asking for a probe as to what high Luis Cabrera, chairman of the Mexi- employes' brotherhoods was quickly government officials, if any, profited can commissioners, is understood to terminated. contain suggestions of modifications stood to be that the conference commit- note to the belligerent powers, would which have been carefully worded to tee of railroad managers sought to ap- result in there being no quorum in avoid ending the negotiations.

the comment of one Mexican official, the Adamson act. who had read the reply. Further than what its terms were.

Mexican Representative Arrives.

that the American commissioners would not force an end of the negotiations if a reply, even late, was not of such a character as to preclude further consid-

Luis Cabrera, chairman of the Mexican commission, arrived here from New York this morning, bearing the answer of Carranza. He made telegraphic ar-rangements last night with Secretary Lane to submit the answer today.

It has been understood here for sev-eral days that if Gen. Carranza did not return such an answer as would war-rant a reassembling of the joint com-mission the negotiations would be delared ended and that Gen. Carranza's Eliseo Arredondo, would re turn to Mexico, leaving the embassy here in charge of a confidential agent.

Would Delay H. P. Fletcher.

This would not amount to a severance of diplomatic relations, because in strict sense there never have been any Such a turn, of course, would prevent sending Henry P. Fletcher, American mbassador designate, to Mexico City. and, in short, the situation would return to the point it occupied before the comnission negotiations began. Mr. Arredondo today unou

rredondo today unqualifiedly de-blished reports that he had been

nied published reports that he had been recalled.

"It is absolutely untrue that I have been recalled by my government," said he. "nor do I know if the government is contemplating summoning me. If it should occur, as it did a few weeks ago, it would not be in the nature of my withdrawal from my post."

WILL ATTACK JUAREZ AND CHIHUAHUA CITY

Villa's Forces Planning Simultaneous Movement, It Is Reported

in El Paso. cisco Villa's forces are preparing to cisions."

known to be close to Villa. A Mexican refugee who arrived here

from Torreon said Villa was preparing to move north with 5,000 men to attack Chihuahua City. He reported another force of 500 Villa followers to have been vesterday at the Calderon ranch, sixty-five miles southeast of

Skirmishing between the rebels at Calderon and the de facto troops which the employes will continue their work left Juarez Tuesday for Chihuahua City was reported here late yesterday, but could not be confirmed in Juarez. The Villa forces southeast of Juarez are commanded by Col. Manuel Ochoa and Col. Mariano Tamez, manuel Ocpos and Col. Mariano Tamez, according to a deserter who has arrived at the border from the Calderon ranch. The Villa followers were said to have been sent north to take Juarez as soon as Villa started his attack on Chihughua City.

It is not believed here that Villa has say direct tactical connection with the feat President Wilson's proposed pol-

It is not believed here that Villa has any direct tactical connection with the operations reported from the eastern military zone near San Luis Potosi, Tampico and Monterey, but Gen. Carrera Torres and the Cedilla brothers are said to be operating in that section under the Villa banner.

The occupation of San Luis Potosi by the Villa forces Monday was reaffirmed by men known to be close to Villa, but was denied by Carranza Converse Strange Praye, who said a message

vina, but was denied by Carranza Con sul Soriano Brave, who said a message had been received at Laredo, Tex., fron San Luis Potosi.

THOUGHT VILLA NEAR. Rumor of Attack on Juarez Follows Explosions Near El Paso.

EL PASO, Tex., December 28.-Thre explosions that sounded like cannon shots and seemed to come from the Mexican side filled El Paso last night with rumors of a Villa attack on Juarez, until it was learned that they were caused by molten slag escaping and flowing over wet ground at the smelter near here.

A local American paper added to the excitement by issuing an extra at the same hour proclaiming that a rebel army of two thousand men was marching

SEARCH FOR STEAMER MARYLAND ABANDONED

NANTUCKET, Mass. December 28 --The steamship Maryland was regarded as probably lost today. Search for her vessel and crew by the coast guard cutters Acushnet and Gresham, which

CONFERENCE COMES | SEES "NO QUORUM" TO A SUDDEN END

way Managers Adjourn After Two Hours.

MAY REOPEN NEGOTIATIONS CAUSE OF BREAK UNKNOWN

NEW YORK, December 28 .- Resump-The door has not been closed," was award to the present controversy over Monday was expressed in a long and

The conferees had been in session that no intimation was obtainable as to less than two hours when an adjourn- Lawson of Boston. The telegram also ment was taken, and no announcement was made by either side as to whether future meetings would be held. The While Carranza was informed flatly brotherhood conferees were obviously that the United States expected a final disturbed when the session ended. fidently alludes to "this week's leak" reply last Tuesday, it seemed possible Neither side would be quoted as to as worthy of more attention than last what had taken place.

It was learned, however, that the roads suggested that the dispute between them over the application of the Adamson act, if upheld by the Supreme Court, be settled on the basis of the switchmen's award, which, the railroad managers held, gave the switchmen on the roads involved nine hours' pay for

the roads involved nine hours' pay for eight hours of work.

Representatives of the brotherhoods, it was asserted, declined point blank to accept a settlement on such a basis. They are declared to have pointed insistently to the Adamson act and to have demanded that an agreement be reached under the act. Such a settlement, they held, would grant them ten hours' pay for eight hours of work. The railroad managers will continue their individual conferences here, it was heir individual conferences here, it was The plans of the brotherhoods

For Federal Commission.

etween railroads and their employes, regardless of whether the United States Supreme Court may hold the Adamson act the chiefs of the four railway brotheroods indicated today they might place before the conference committee of railroad managers. Representatives of the two sides went into conference here to discuss the Adamson legislation and its

f whatever grievances might de-between the roads and their em-

Oppose Outside Connection.

ust be men who understand their busiess, but before becoming members they vould be compelled to sever all connections they previously had with either side. Such a commission should have Wood today said that at no time has enary powers, would hold hearings and

attack Chihuahda City and Juarez simultaneously in an effort to establish railroad traffic between the bornish railroad traffic between the bornishes of such a federal commission. Mr. Lee would not say definitely that discussion today would center on the conference committee of rail-

een suspended pending the outcome of he test suit. Therefore on January without any immediate benefits from the law, which was to have gone into peration on that day.

Will Not Withdraw Suit.

The railroads, it is understood, will not withdraw the suit or permit anycy of compulsory investigation of la-bor disputes. The railroads also will any plan to have the Adamson law re-pealed.

pealed.

A possible outcome of today's conference was the appointment of a joint board to determine the operation of the law if its constitutionality is es-

DESTRUCTION OF DELTO **DECLARED LEGITIMATE**

BERLIN, December 27, via London, December 28.—The reply of the Gerdetached post when one of the men man government to another of the struck a match to light a cigarette," said Capt. Clarke. "The detachment American inquiries in regard to steam- said Capt. Clarke. "The detachment had fired about fifteen shots when we American inquiries in regard to this inships sunk by submarines, in this inspirate in the destruction of a made out several men afoot and on a manual out the river gorge. the Norwegian steamship Deito, with
Americans in the crew, declares that
the steamship was chartered for transport purposes to a belligerent government and hence its destruction was
legitimate. This reply, which has been
delivered to the American embassy,
says that so far as was possible the
safety of the crew was provided for.
The men were given half an hour in
which to enter the boats. The weather
was clear and the distance to the shore
was not excessive.

Marina Settlement Delayed.

Marina Settlement Delayed.

horseback running up the increased
to come from several
tother points. We kept up our fire until
other points. We kept up o the Norwegian steamship Delto, with horseback running up the river gorge Firing seemed to come from severa

Gen. Jose Murguia, commander at Juarez, also instituted an investigation. The settlement of the Marina case, was begun after the Maryland's wire- which hinges on the question whether less calls of distress were suddenly si- the steamship was a government lenced Christmas night, was abandoned without having developed any trace of either. Flotsam found by the cutters could not be identified as being from the Maryland. Hope for the safety of the Maryland is the steamship was a government transport, is being delayed pending recipit transport transport transport transport transport transp could not be identified as being from the Maryland. Hope for the safety of the steamer's thirty-odd men lies in the possibility that they were picked up fron the ship's boat by a passing steamer.

The cutters had circled for more than thirty hours in the vicinity of the position given by the Maryland's wireless operator.

The American government has transmitted for information two statements from the British government the British government the gray on the British government the Greek government is carrying out its promise to demobilize the Greek army. The work is proceeding officially, the davices indicates.

Breed Tickets for Sweden.

COPENHAGEN, via Loadon, December 28.—A Stockholm dispatch to the ernment gives these statements. There has been no further dvelopments in the case of the Arabia.

IF PROBE COMES UP

T. W. Lawson Hints Senators and Representatives Will Evade Investigation Action.

PREDICTS 'LEAK' THIS WEEK

The belief that any "real investigaof Representative Wood of Indiana sensational telegram received this prophesies a shifting of bank acinvestigation days in case such an investigation is really expected, and con-

Mr. Lawson's Letter.

Mr. Lawson's wire is as follows "New York, December 27, 1916. Congressman Wood of Indiana. Washington, D. C .:

"Just read today's New York papers.
You and Chairman Henry unable to locate me. Really! Framed over my desk is an envelope inscribed To Thomas W. Lawson'—no other address. To settle a wager it was mailed in an interior town in China and landed in my Recton office in record short time.

Villa Ahumada

President Clears Conscience.

Czar's Words Applauded.

Nicholas stating that the time has not ar-

Standard says: "We cordially welcome this frank ex-

position of war aims from one consider-able member of the alliance. It would do

Little New in Note.

PARIS, December 28.-The newspa

pers comment freely on Germany's re-

ENTENTE PRESS STILL FIRM

Failure of Berlin to State Teutonic Terms

Regarded as Ending Possibility

of Negotiations. .

settle a wager it was mailed in an interior town in China and landed in my Boston office in record short time.

"If you and Chairman Henry wish to communicate with me toss a post card from any window in the Capitol, addressed to Thomas W. Lawson' or TW. L., Boston, and you will receive answer by return mail.

"Take a tip from one who played the big Washington Wall street game and the big international publicity game long before you were old enough to distinguish between a stock exchange and a congressional hall—spend less effort on last week's and more on this week's leak, which is liable to inundate both Wall street and Washington.

"There were only sixty-odd millions hogsheaded from last week's; this week's may run into billions.

"And this tip, too, is meant in the best of spirit—if it was actually believed in Washington there was to be a real investigation of last wek's leak there would not be a quorum in either the Senate or House next Monday and a shifting of bank accounts similar to those in the good old sugar investigation days. those in the good old sugar investiga

"Whether or not I received postcard from you or Chairman Henry, rest easy in the knowledge I will answer your public talking as reported by the press, and that when you digest my answer you will know more about Washington Wall street stock gambling leaks than before you begin trying to locate.

"THOMAS W. LAWSON "Of Boston.

"P. S.—I am mailing you and Chairman Henry four of my books—Frenzied Finance." High Cost of Living,"
The Remedy and 'Path Pointer.' A casual run through them may help you in your leak tracing." "Whether or not I received postcare

Representative Wood's Comment.

In commenting on the telegram Mr. plenary powers, would not hearings and after deliberation would announce its decisions."

According to the brotherhood chiefs the roads' representatives have already considered the idea of such a federal commission. Mr. Lee would not say definitely about reaching Mr. Lawson and getting a full statement from him with reference to the close to Villa.

peace note.

Mr. Wood further stated that the reflection cast by this telegram upon every member of the House and Sen-ate was sufficient to warrant the fullest investigation of all the matters in volved in his resolution, and that the Senate and House, out of self-respect for each of these bodies, should insist that such an investigation be had. Mr. Wood further stated that if the Mr. Wood further stated that if the editorials appearing in the cosmopolitan newspapers in the country are any reflex of public opinion, the public itself will insist that the fullest investigation be had of this matter, not only for the purpose of ferreting out those who are responsible for the advance information received by Wall street, which caused the loss of millions of dollars, but for the further purpose of preventing a recurrence of such a capreventing a recurrence of such a ca-lamity and such a scandal.

KENTUCKIANS ONCE MORE IN FIGHT WITH MEXICANS

EL PASO, Tex., December 28.-Several hundred shots were fired across the Rio Grande into Mexico west of here early today by members of the lead of Russia and state their terms. The Kentucky National Guard, whose officers declared that the fusillade was a reply to shots fired from the Mexican side. So spirited was the American fire that residents of the district thought a machine gun was being used, but this was denied by the Kentucky officers. There were no known cas-

officers. There were no known cas-ualties.
Capt. E. W. Clarke, in command of L.
Company, 3d Kentucky Infantry, which
did the firing, affirmed that he not only
heard shots and saw flashes on the
Mexican side, but also saw some Mexicans when the headlight of a street car
crossing a bridge lighted the bed of the
river below. river below. "About four shots were fired at our

Greece Demobilizes Her Army.

ply to President Wilson's note con cerning peace. All of them affirm that

News Note: Five hundred Carranzistas are reported to have deserted and joined Villa's army at

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, December 28, 11:15 a.m.—
The Manchester Guardian, taking the point of view that Germany has rejected ded the proposals made in the American note, says that President Wilson's suggestion, instead of being "the outcome of a cark Germany that it is evaded altogether in the reply, which recurs, instead, to the proposal Germany herself has made, which the allies already had rejected.

British denunciation of the note is clearly superfluous," the Guardian continues. "The task of our foreign offices will be very much lightened if Germany refuses to carry her definition any further, or even to reply to the general statements made on our behalf. It is clear we, on our side, can go no further for the time being.

President Clears Conscience.

mann Holleweg's, the German imperial chancellor, except that it proposes a conference in some neutral capital. "Germany," says the Temps, "invites her adversaries to a conference without making to them any disclosure of what she proposes to say until their delegates surround the green cloth."

The Temps the systematic mendacity of the war, and alleges that he changed the date of the note is clearly superfluous," the Guardian continues. "The task of our foreign offices will be very much lightened if Germany refuses to carry her definition any further, or even to reply to the general statements made on our behalf. It is clear we, on our side, can go no further for the time being.

President Clears Conscience.

don.-Switzerland's indorsement of "President Wilson, by the issue of President Wilson's initiative in solicithis note, has cleared his conscience, ing the formulation of peace terms by and if Germany now resumes or, rather, the warring powers and the news that increases submarine 'frightfulness,' so other neutrals will follow suit has deas to strain her relations with the cidedly strengthened the impression United States, the President will, at any rate, stand before his people as one who did his utmost to avert catastrophe by an effort to re-establish peace."

The Guardian also takes the ground that the German reply hints that the proposal to establish a league to insure peace after the present war will not constitute an item in peace negotiations, and adds:

"Yet, how appropriate it would have been to discuss a league of nations in convented in the role of a many any system of the president of the present war is prepared to go much further this first chapter of peace negotiations is closed. Germany attempted to figure in the role of a magnanimous victor ought not to appear on the stage in a palpable state of hunger.

"** The allies took the measure of her proposals without difficulty and the President Wilson's efforts may be received, there can be no possible to the belligerent winderstanding between the belligerent in the role of a familian of the president wilson's efforts may be received, there can be no possible to the belligerent in the role of the magnanimous victor, but a magnanimous victor ought not to appear on the stage in a palpable state of hunger.

"The allies took the measure of her proposals without difficulty and the President Wilson's efforts may be received, there can be no possible to the belligerent in the role of a familian of the president wilson's efforts may be received, there can be no possible to the belligerent in the role of a familian of the president wilson's efforts may be received, there can be no possible to the belligerent in the role of a familian of the president wilson's efforts may be received, there can be no possible to the belligerent in the role of the fact that the Swiss federal council, as the result of its having placed itself in communication with the president wilson's efforts may be received, there can be no possible to the stage of the president wilson's efforts may be received, there can be no possible to the stage of the president wilson's efforts may be receive United States, the President will, at made here by the American proposal, • • • The allies took the measure of her proposals without difficulty and the Presi-dent brought it to the test of definition." be received, there can be no possible interpretation of the note as unfriendly to the entente allies, or having been sent with other than the best of in-The official order issued by Emperor

Explaining Note at Rome. ived for peace negotiations takes the ROME, December 27, via Paris, Deleading place today in both the news and cember 28 .- United States Ambassador editorial sections of the evening news-Page had a long interview with Baron papers. Some of them suggest the other Sonnino, the Italian foreign minister, today in regard to President Wilson's note. Ambassador Page elucidated passages of the note which have been the subject of controversy in the Italian press, and emphasized the friendly spirit which moved the President to

Teutons Not Optimistic That Foes Can Be Induced to Enter Peace Conference

By the Associated Press.

position of war aims from one considerable member of the alliance. It would do no harm and it might do much good if the other allies made it clear once for all that there can now be no question of restoration of the status quo. There has been far too much inclination in this country to treat the mere evacuation of occupied territories as a test of sincerity on Germany's part.

"It is now quite time that beligerents and neutrals understood the true situation. The allies believe they can inflict very shortly a crushing military defeat on Germany. She then will be offered peace on the lines of restitution of Alsace-Lorraine, relinquishment of her spoils, the loss of her colonies and the payment of suitable indemnities while her allies will have to meet the minimum demands of Russia and Italy." BERLIN, December 27, via Londor

the occasion with the desperate eagerness of a drowning man catching at a straw. Rejecting all idea of a conference, the Post says:

"It is perfectly evident that if a discussion were once begun, the war could not possibly be resumed. The long-gathering momentum of the allies, once checked, could not be recovered."

Tittle New Le Water Could the same table with English and French delegates after the recent speeches of Premiers Lloyd George and Briand, or until those speeches are apologized for. The Taeglische Rundschau says that the note emphatically rejects the participation of neutrals in a peace conference which, it thinks, would undoubtedly prolong negotiations beside disturbing the natural determining forces.

Conclusions Not Optimistic.

The papers, however, do not reach optimistic conclusions based on the ex-change of notes. The Lokal Anteiger says it contains nothing not contained in the that it has not even a remote belief that and escaped with \$800 in cash and sevents communication of Dr. von Beth- the allies will send delegates to a peace eral hundred dollars in bonds.

conference if such a step is recommended by President Wilson. AGAINST PEACE CONFERENCE

ed by President Wilson.

The disposition of certain pan-German newspapers to read an unfavorable interpretation into the Austrian and German replies to President Wilson's note is not shared in official circles, where the interpretation generally voiced, is that the reply is in principle, "a loyal acceptance of President Wilson's suggestion, promoting the prospects of peace now and in the future and an effort is the same direction as the original peace proposal of the central, powers."

As to the prospect that peace will result directly from the present negotiations and interchange of notes there is no marked display of optimism in either ofmarked display of optimism in either of ficial or unofficial circles.

Switzerland Is Favored.

The example of the Portsmouth negosian war, is, however, sometimes recalled. robably reject the German proposal for a conference in a neutral country. He said that if the proposal were accepted Switzerland would be the most probable place for the meeting because of its central position, telegraphic facilities, adequate hotel accommodations and the belief, he

Berlin Claims to Be in Complete Accord With President .

President of the United States, is also "Macedonian front: Northeast or ready to take action and side with the Lake Doiran, several British compa understanding between the belligerent nations and toward the attainment of a lasting peace.

"Spirit of True Humanity."

"The spirit of true humanity, where by the steps of the Swiss federal cour cil are inspired, is fully appreciated and esteemed by the imperial government. "The imperial government has informed the President of the United tant Rumanian oil and grain depot it States that a direct exchange of views seems to it to be the most suitable means of obtaining the desired result means of obtaining the desired result.
"Led by the same consideration
which caused Germany on December 1
to offer her hand for peace negotia
tions, the government has proposed at
immediate meeting of all the belliger

Prevention of Future Wars.

"In agreement with the President of the United States, the government is Russians, in strongly prepared positions of the opinion that the great work of

submitted to Mayor Mitchel by Fire Commissioner Adamson Indicate that despite the risks of their service it is safer to be a fireman than a policeman and safer to be either than a plain citizen. Percentages of death and illness are lower in both services than in the general average of the public.

Blow Bank Safe, Getting \$800. DANVILLE, Ill. December 28 .- Rob. bers blew open the safe in Morgan's Bank, in Perryville, Ind., early today

COMPLETE DEFEAT FOR RUSSIAN ARMIES

Slavs Summoned to Defense of Rumania Hurled Back.

Says Berlin.

10,220 MADE PRISONERS

y the Associated Press. BERLIN, December 28, by wireless to Sayville .- The defeat of the Russo-Rumanian forces (in Rumania) by the in ading Teutonic army has been con pleted, it is announced officially. Rus sian troops, which attempted to regain lost ground, were thrust back and ejected from their new positions with heavy losses. In vesterday's fighting the Austro-German forces took 3,00 prisoners. The statement reads: "Front of Archduke Joseph-On the Ludova, in the wooded Carpathians German riflemen drove off strong Rus-

sian patrols in a hand-grenade engage ment. In the Meste Canesci sector ther was repeatedly lively cannonading. In the mountains, in the Oituz and Putna valleys the fighting activity increased.

Stampeded From New Positions. "Army group of Field Marshal von Mackensen: The 27th of December

brought to the 9th Army Infantry under Gen. von Falkensayn a complete victory in the battle near Rimnik Sara over the Russians summoned to the defense of Rumania. The enemy, who was defeated on December 26, attempted to regain the ground lost by counter thrusts of strong masses, but the attacks failed. Prussian and Bavarian infantry divisions pressed behind the enemy, whose forces flowed back. Our troops stampeded him from his new positions constructed during the night and pushed ahead beyond Rimnik Sara. "At the same time further southeast German and Austro-Hungarian troops pierced strongly intrenched Russian lines. They repulsed here also violent counter attacks made upon their flank and advanced fighting in a northeasterly direction. The enemy again in this defeat suffered heavy sanguinary losses. fense of Rumania. The enemy, who was

10.220 Russian Prisoners. "Yesterday 3,000 prisoners and twen as booty. The number of prisoners made by the 9th Army in engagements

220 Russians. Teutonic allies fighting in Ru-

in today's army headquarters state ment. The text reads:

nies, after strong artillery preparation unsuccessfully attacked Bulgarian out-posts."

Braila Now Under Fire of German Guns From Across Danube River

BERLIN. December 28, by wireless to Sayville, N. Y.-Braila, the impornortheastern Wallachia, is under the fire of Germano-Bulgarian cannon from across the Danube, says the military critic of the Overseas News Agency, in his review today

"The remnant of the Rumanian troop decimated in Wallachia," the military

critic writes, "retreated in confusion behind the River Sereth for the pur pose of being reformed there unite Russian leadership. Simultaneously the preventing future wars can only be ube, offered resistance in an effort to Germany. She then will be offered peace on the lines of restitution of Alsace-Lore on the lines of restitution of Alsace-Lore on the lines of restitution of Alsace-Lore on the lines of restitution of her spoils, the loss of her colonies and the payment of her spoils, the loss of her colonies and the payment of her boson of her colonies and the payment of her colonies and the payment of her colonies and the payment of the loss of her colonies and the payment of the loss of her colonies and the payment of the loss of her colonies and the payment of the loss of her colonies and the payment of the loss of her colonies and the payment of her spoils, the loss of her colonies and the payment of her spoils, the loss of her colonies and the payment of her spoils, the loss of her colonies and the payment of her spoils, the loss of her colonies and the payment of her spoils, the loss of her colonies and the payment of her spoils, the loss of her colonies and the payment of her spoils, the loss of her colonies and the payment of her spoils, the loss of her colonies and the payment of her spoils, the loss of the redictions and the payment of a good impression generally in the press. Only the anti-her deform members of the her spoils, the loss of the loss of the twist which it was made have caused a good impression generally in the press. Only the anti-her deform members they will joyfully be taken in hand after the press. Only this safet this, was has terminated. So soon as that moment comes they will joyfully be taken to co-operate in this sublime trady to co-operate in this sublime trady to co-operate in this sublime trady. If we have to a good impression generally in the press. Only the anti-her deformance of the press.

The London morning papers generally the press. Only the anti-her deformance of the press. Only the anti-her deformance of the press. Only the pressent with which it was made have caused tasks. The present wish which it was made have caused tasks. The latter papers find a certain satisfaction in the propo taken in hand after the present workl ward the Sereth. Consequently, new

Militiamen Reject Public Banquet. PITTSBURGH, Pa., December 28.— Declaring that they had been falsely the 18th Pennsylvania Regiment, which but the vessel was apparently undam

GERMANY BELIEVED WILLING TO STATE TERMS OF PEACE

ONE CENT.

Held Not Averse to Confidential Exchange of Tentative Proposals.

WOULD BLOCK REFUSAL OF ENTENTE TO PARLEY

Teutonic Government Ready to Come ply With Any Suggestions From President to Assure Conference.

Germany, it was made known here today, will not permit the road to peace negotiations to be blocked by a refusal of the entente belligerents to enter a conference without prior knowledge of her terms. It has been forecast that the entente powers would base a refusal on this condition.

The central powers were represented today as willing to permit a confidential exchange of broad tentative terms through President Wilson should it become necessary to do so to bridge the gap which threatens to prevent a gathering of peace delegates. There were broad intimations today that a statement of this position by Germany either had been communicated to the United States government or soon would be.

Official Text Now Here.

The official text of Germany's reply near Rimnik Sara forms a total of 10,- to President Wilson's note arrived today, and it was declared that no confi-"With the Danube army yesterday dential communication from Ambassathere were only local engagements.
"In Dobrudja, Bulgarian and Turkish troops succeeded in throwing the Russians from fortified height positions east of Matchin."

The Theorem army yesterday dential communication from Ambassador Gerard accompanies it. There are indications, however, that a confidential statement of Germany's position, if made, would come through the ambassador. It has been announced in advance, however, that it would not be made public, and it is likely that its receipt even would not be admitted. to the United States to make every effort

Russians Pressed Back.

PETROGRAD, December 28, British admiralty per wireless press.—The following statement on military operations was issued today by the war office:

"Rumanian front—Throughout the day (Wednesday) the enemy made a number of fiere attacks along almost the whole of our front. In the region of the upper stream of the River Rimnik, north of Megura, he succeeded in pressing back slightly our cavalry detachments and infantry detachments of the Rumanians.

"On the Rimnik highroad our detachments of the Rumanians.

"On the Rimnik highroad our detachments of the Rumanians.

"On the Rimnik highroad our detachments after having repulsed a series of attacks, were obliged to abandon first line trenches, which were demolished by artillery fire:

"Enemy attacks in the remaining sectors were beaten back with great losses to him, and in the village of Valea-Seltzei, by our counter attack, we captured several machine guns.

British Attack Fails.

British Attack Fails.

BERLIN, December 28, by wireless to Sayville.—Unsuccessful attacks by the British on Bulgarian advance lines in the Lake Doiran region are announced in today's army headquarters statediscussed with more freedon

Official Text of Reply.

The official text, which differs some in phraseology from the unofficial, fol-

"The imperial government has accepted and considered in the friendly spirit which is apparent in the communication of the President (the) noble initiative of the President looking to the creation of bases for the foundation of a lasting page.

for the foundation of a lasting peace.

"The President discloses the aim which lies next to his heart and leaves the choice of the way open."

"A direct exchange of views, appears to the imperial government as the most suitable way of arriving at the desired result. The imperial government has the honor, therefore, in the sense of its declaration of the 12th instant, which offered the hand for peace negotiations, to propose speedy assembly on neutral ground, of delegates of the warring states.

states. "It is also the view of the im-"It is also the view of the imperial government that the great work for the prevention of future wars can first be taken up only after the ending of the present conflict of exhaustion. The imperial government is ready, when this point has been reached, to co-operate with the United States at this sublime task."

Growing Belief Regarding Allies. That the allies will declare that there must be a military solution to the war,

both in their note to the President and n their reply to the central powers, is the growing belief here both on the basis of statements at the allied em-bassies and from cabled press com-ment. Intimations from both Paris ment. Intimations from both Paris and Rome that the allies will not discuss peace until they actually hold the territories they considered essential for their future are taken to indicate that the allies want to wait for a substantial military victory and a reversal of the present military situation.

STEAMSHIP OZAMA SAFE.

Missing Vessel Anchors Inside Breakwater at Block Island, R. I. BLOCK ISLAND, R. I., December 28 .--The Clyde Line steamship Ozama, for which four coast guard cutters had represented as wanting to come home been searching along the New England and suffering from lack of food while coast, anchored inside the breakwater on the Mexican border, sergeants of here today. Her coal supply was low,

is to be returned Monday to be mustered out, have voted unanimously to
reject the offer of a public banquet and
reception in honor of the regiment. The
Pittsburgh city council and the commissioners of Allegheny quunty had
appropriated \$2,000 for the banquet.